FAIL SAFE RECOVERY

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0049] A consumer electronic device, such as a digital video recorder (DVR), has a media storage storing program code modules and content and a network interface for interfacing with one or more remote servers. Content is stored in a content area, modules for monitoring and controlling the consumer electronic device are stored in a system area, and recovery modules are stored in an error recovery area. The monitoring modules activate the recovery modules in response to the detection of an error. The recovery modules diagnose the error and attempt one or more solutions. One solution attempted by the recovery modules is to activate a network recovery module that downloads and installs new program modules for controlling the consumer electronic device from a remote server.